



**San Juan County Action Agenda Oversight Group/San Juan Local Integrating Organization (SJ-LIO)
Implementation Committee (IC) Meeting**

Meeting Summary

Wednesday June 1, 2016, 11:00 am – 1:30 pm

Islanders Bank Annex Building, Friday Harbor, WA

v 06-22-2016

| Action Items | Person(s) Responsible |
|---|-----------------------|
| Submit notable accomplishments since 2014 to Marta for incorporation to the 2016 Action Agenda San Juan Profile | 2014 NTA Owners |

| Record of Decisions | Person(s) Responsible |
|---|-----------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group unanimously approved meeting summary from May 5, 2016. | All |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members unanimously agreed to push discussion of holding a public meeting until fall. | All |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members agreed to cancel July LIO IC meeting. | All |

Welcome and Introductions

Linda Lyshall, chair of the Implementation Committee (IC), convened the meeting at 11:05am. The Implementation Committee (IC) members and guests provided brief introductions.

Meeting Agenda and Summary

The meeting agenda was approved with one change; Sam asked for a short time to talk with the group about her transition to her new position in Port Townsend. The meeting summary from the May 5, 2016 SJ LIO Implementation Committee meeting was approved unanimously with no changes.

Public Comment

None.

Updates

Linda updated the group about an opportunity for the SJ LIO to participate in an upcoming Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) audit of the PSP. The meeting will be on June 8, 2016. JLARC will be interviewing two LIO committees, one from Island County and the SJ LIO. They will be coming to San Juan and will be going on a site visit to Cascade Creek on Orcas to see the finished project. There was consideration of continuing the meeting on the ferry run between Orcas and San Juan but agreed it would be preferable to provide adequate time at the Orcas Landing office. Marta will send out the final schedule with details.

Sam announced that it was her last day with San Juan County. She accepted a position as the Port of Port Townsend Executive Director. She acknowledged the expertise of the LIO membership, expressed her gratitude for everyone's contribution and suggested there may be opportunities to work together on regional environmental issues.



Regional Updates on the 2016 Action Agenda Review Process

Suzanna reported that a revised 2016 Action Agenda has been issued with every public comment addressed in a matrix. The responses can be found here:

<http://pugetsoundactionagendaupdate.publicmeeting.info/>

Peter or Heather from PSP can walk the SJ LIO through those comments. The PSP will make sure the Action Agenda gets to final approval. The SI Leads' work plans are still being negotiated. Only state agencies applied for leads, in part due to the fund match requirements. Contract leads for strategic initiatives include: Department of Ecology for the stormwater strategic initiative, Department of Health for the shellfish strategic initiative, and Department of Natural Resources/ Washington Department of Fish And Wildlife as co-leads for the habitat strategic initiative. Each of the three strategic initiatives will be granted \$5 million in funds. Before, there was not a well-coordinated investment with funding. Now, funding is topical and coordinated, under contract directly with the EPA. Eventually, the 2016 Action Agenda NTA ranked list will be used as the primary basis for directing recovery funding.

Suzanna reviewed the process and timeline for the \$100k funding for local NTA priorities:

- July-September will be the SIAT decision-making period.
- September-October will be the LIO decision-making period.
- October-November will be the Leadership Council review.
- November-December will be the period for Strategic Initiative lead contract creation.

Marta noted that many LIOs commented that this process needs to be streamlined. A discussion about funding continued. Members questioned whether or not the LIOs would know where the funds would be going. It was clarified that all LIOs feel it is important that they know exactly where funds will be going before requesting funds for local priority NTAs. Members were also reminded that there will be a two-year period for funds to be allocated. All funds will be coming through the strategic initiative leads, not the EPA. There will also be a PSP workshop for LIO Coordinators with SI Leads planned for June or July 2017.

Ecosystems Protection and Recovery Plan (EPRP)

Marta went over the Plan Development Timeline. Marta will be attending next week's workshop on June 9th. She asked group members if they want to hold a public meeting, as it suggested in the guidance. Discussion followed. It was noted that the last public meeting was poorly attended, and the group decided to push further discussion of a public meeting to fall.

Marta reported on events from the core team's meeting in April. The team created Tiered Ecosystem Components. Group members discussed and gave input. Some members expressed that by creating tier I and tier II levels, it seems that certain components are more important than others. They suggested the terms be renamed. Linda explained that tier I goals will be focal and tier II goals will show impact. Critical actions lead to ultimate goals.



Marta reviewed vision and purpose followed by the Ecosystem Components, starting with Shorelines. She stated that the LIO's goal for each component should be the condition of the component when the LIO has been successful.

Shoreline Ecosystem Component Goals discussion followed:

- Reduce hard armoring – The group agreed that currently there is insufficient data to support the goal. San Juan County does not have a complete database for armoring, and there are gaps that need to be filled.
- Maintain and increase eelgrass habitat – The group discussed the fact that there are no proposed eelgrass NTA projects for San Juan County. There is also no index of what existing eelgrass habitat is or is not healthy, and no quantitative documentation. Linda suggested changing the goal to read “to better understand problems with habitat and work on restoration efforts.” Marta suggested the goal be “to maintain and reduce the loss of eelgrass habitat” as the goal.
- Protect and restore marine riparian forest – The group discussed the word “forest.” Some members thought that the words “riparian forest” should be replaced with “native vegetation” however it was noted that forest indicates the diversity and vegetation could merely be grass.
- Stabilize Southern Resident Killer Whale (SRKW) population – Marta reminded group members that the SRKWs are not meeting NOAA's objectives to stabilize and grow the population. The PSP suggested an appropriate number of animals should be 95 individuals in the population by 2020. Suzanna reminded group members that contributions to this regional target will be met collectively by participants statewide. Group members felt that it is important for the SJ LIO to put a loftier goal out there, even if those goals won't happen, so that everyone knows how important the issue is locally.
- A member suggested we focus goals statements on the tier 1 focal components.

Marine Water Quality Ecosystem Component Goals discussion followed:

- Members questioned that oil spill prevention was not addressed. It was agreed that the component to be added to this grouping is Marine Water Quality. The pressure of oil spill was presented in the following slide.
- Reduce sources of e coli in stormwater and transportation of sediments in fresh and marine waters. Linda pointed out that “e coli” should be changed to “contaminants” to be more inclusive.

Freshwater Ecosystem Component Goals discussion followed:

- All five goals were discussed collectively by the group, with Byron noting that in San Juan County there are eight priority watersheds, not four. The group agreed that the importance of these issues needs to be captured by setting goals, even if these issues are not funded.

Forest Ecosystem Component Goals discussion followed:

- The group agreed that the words “riparian forest” should be changed to “forest” and that it can be grouped with the Forest component in the Freshwater grouping.

2016 Action Agenda

Stan reported to the group that he would be at the AOC meeting and will be asking that the Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) document be removed from the profile. By asking that the tribes' usual and



accustom waters be designated as a PSSA, the tribes believe it will endanger their tribal rights. It was suggested that the scope of this conversation is beyond the IC and should be deferred to the AOC.

San Juan Profile for 2016 Action Agenda

Marta led the group in a discussion about identifying information gaps and noting accomplishments the LIO has made to the EPRP. She needs to include everyone's highlighted efforts. Currently, the San Juan profile for the 2016 Action Agenda includes:

- Developed statewide monitoring and management plans for priority basins.
- Provided technical assistance to waterfront property owners, including eight site assessment reports, and a 30% design for bulkhead removal and shoreline restoration.

Marta would like to include other accomplishments. She asked group members, especially NTA owners, to send their accomplishments to her via email by June 2nd.

Evaluation Criteria to Prioritize Local NTAs for FY2016-17 NEP Funds

Marta reported that she will know soon how much if any of the supplemental funding is left to reallocate. She will be talking with Suzanna, and a decision about how to reallocate those funds will be made by the end of June. Funds must be used for a 2016 NTA by the end of September. Suzanna discouraged doing this unless there is a slam dunk project that will be done by September. Reallocating funds could become a contractual complication. The funds could be used as seed money, but also as a funding strategy. Marta could possibly do a sub-award under the contract. She will get more answers after the next core team meeting. It was suggested by group members that the funding could be used for the Marine Managers' Workshop. Another suggestion was that funds be used to produce a community workshop on the Lopez Bulkhead Removal Project, as that could be done by September.

The group discussed the \$100k funds that will be available for NTAs. Linda told the group the IC needs to decide which NTA it wants to support. The NTA owners will resubmit their proposals; the LIO will rank and then decide on those proposals. The group reviewed the scoring and eligibility criteria and made edits:

- "Represents the best use of available funds to advance LIO objectives in support of Puget Sound" was removed from the scoring criteria.
- "Proposed cost is less than \$200,000 for the action to achieve the expected outcome" was changed to "Requested funds are less than \$100,000 for the action to achieve the expected outcome" under eligibility criteria.

Criteria need to be circulated to NTA owners in order to have them start thinking about this process. Group members acknowledged that it is not an easy thing for NTA owners to have to submit a new proposal, but that new proposals will help the LIO make recommendations with the aid of a detailed budget. The proposal needs to be clear and simple, no more than three pages, with a budget. Linda invited LIO members to participate in the core team meetings to provide input on the proposal process. Marta noted that the LIO has until December to do this. This will be discussed again at the August LIO meeting.



Next Steps

- June 8th – JLARC meeting
- June 9th – Workshop #3
- June 17th – AOC meeting
- Mid-late June – Core Team meeting
- July LIO meeting CANCELED

Next SJ LIO IC meeting will in August.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:32 pm

Meeting Participants

Members

| Name | Affiliation | In Attendance |
|-----------------------|---|---------------|
| Barbara Bentley | SJC Marine Resources Committee | X |
| Arnie Klaus | SJC Marine Resources Committee | X |
| Alan Chapman | Lummi Natural Resources Department | X |
| Kyle Dodd | San Juan County Health & Community Services | |
| Sam Gibboney | San Juan County Environmental Resources Division | X |
| Patti Gobin | Tulalip Tribes | |
| Stephanie Buffum | San Juan Stewardship Network/EcoNet Representative | X |
| Linda Lyshall (Chair) | San Juan Islands Conservation District | X |
| Byron Rot | San Juan County/WRIA 2 Lead Entity | X |
| Billie Swalla | University of Washington Friday Harbor Laboratories | X |
| Kimbal Sundberg | Water Resources Management Committee | X |
| Stan Walsh | Swinomish Tribe, Skagit River System Cooperative | X |
| Duncan Wilson | Town of Friday Harbor | |

Staff and Guests

| Name | Affiliation |
|------------------|---|
| Laura Arnold | Marine Resources Committee, Stewardship Network |
| Marta Green | San Juan Action Agenda Oversight Group |
| Phil Green | Marine Resources Committee |
| Suzanna Stoike | Puget Sound Partnership |
| Jennifer Thomas | Water and Land Natural Resources |
| Chandler Colahan | Recording Secretary |